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FOR KISSINGER AND KLEIN

USIA FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION REPORT NO. 10, FEB. 17, 1973

MR. KISSINGER'S ASIAN TRIP

SUMMARY

SPECULATIVE REPORTS THAT THE U.S. AND CHINA HAD AGREED ON SOME FORM OF U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM TAIWAN WERE NOTED SATURDAY IN TOKYO AND WEST BERLIN.

THE STATESMAN OF CALCUTTA AND NEW DELHI SAID "THE WORLD COMMUNITY HAS EVERY REASON TO WELCOME" THE AGREEMENT ON U.S.-NORTH VIETNAMESE ECONOMIC COOPERATION. THE TIMES OF LONDON SAID IT "WILL SURELY INHIBIT ANY LINGERING DESIRE AMONG THE NORTH VIETNAMESE LEADERSHIP FOR ANOTHER MILITARY ATTEMPT TO ACHIEVE COMPLETE VICTORY."

TOKYO

UPI ON SATURDAY CITED A PEKING CORRESPONDENT OF LEADING ASAHI OF TOKYO AS SAYING THAT "THE U.S. AND CHINA WERE REPORTED TODAY TO HAVE AGREED ON SOME FORM OF U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM TAIWAN." THE REFERENCE TO TROOP WITHDRAWAL WAS NOT ATTRIBUTED TO ANY CHINESE OFFICIAL.

THE CORRESPONDENT SAID FURTHER THAT MR. KISSINGER AND CHOU EN-LAI HAD ALSO AGREED ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT U.S. TRADE OFFICE IN CHINA AND AN EXCHANGE OF NEWSMEN.

HONG KONG

THE PRO-WESTERN SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST SAID SATURDAY THAT IN THE EVENT OF U.S. RECOGNITION OF PEKING, THE NATIONALISTS WOULD LEASE ONE OR MORE OF THEIR OFFSHORE ISLANDS, SUCH AS THE PESCADORES, TO THE SOVIET UNION AS A NAVAL BASE, IN EXCHANGE FOR A NON-AGGRESSION PACT WITH MOSCOW, AFP REPORTED.

KUALA LUMPUR

DOMESTIC RADIO REPORTED LATE FRIDAY THAT THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF ASEAN IS TO SET UP A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF VIETNAM. THE STATEMENT CAME FROM THE LEADER OF THE THAI DELEGATION TO THE ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN KUALA LUMPUR, MR. CHARTCHAI, WHO ADDED THAT AMERICAN FORCES WOULD WITHDRAW FROM THAILAND "ONCE COMPLETE PEACE IS ACHIEVED IN THE INDOCHINA REGION."

NEW DELHI

THE INDEPENDENT-MODERATE STATESMAN OF CALCUTTA AND NEW DELHI SAID FRIDAY THAT MR. KISSINGER'S "FIRST VISIT TO HANOI HAS RESULTED IN A HIGHLY ENCOURAGING AGREEMENT.... THE VISIT NOT ONLY TOOK PLACE WITHIN A FORTNIGHT OF THE CEASE-FIRE BUT MARKED THE BEGINNING

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OF WHAT COULD BE A NEW CHAPTER IN AMERICAN RELATIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST WORLD....

"THE WORLD COMMUNITY HAS EVERY REASON TO WELCOME THIS AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION. ALTHOUGH AMERICAN AID HAS OFTEN BEEN SUSPECT, NORTH VIETNAM IS SURELY THE ONE COUNTRY WHICH CAN BE DEPENDED UPON NOT TO ACCEPT ANYTHING WITH 'STRINGS' ATTACHED. PERHAPS IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF AID HAD BEEN INTERNATIONALLY COLLECTED, SUPPLIED AND ADMINISTERED, BUT IT IS ALSO ARGUABLE THAT INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES ARE NOT ALWAYS THE MOST EFFICIENT.... AN ADEQUATE INTERNATIONAL EFFORT WOULD HAVE TAKEN TIME TO ORGANIZE, AND VIETNAM'S NEEDS ARE PRESSING. THE AMERICANS, MOREOVER, HAVE A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR RECONSTRUCTION.

"THERE IS ALSO THE GREATER DEVASTATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM. IT IS BUT NATURAL THAT MORE WILL BE SPENT ON THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE SOUTH THAN OF THE NORTH....

"WASHINGTON IS PERHAPS MORE INTERESTED AT THIS STAGE IN SECURING HANOI'S COOPERATION TO END HOSTILITIES IN LAOS AND CAMBODIA.... ACCORDING TO THE COMMUNIQUE, THE INDOCHINESE PARTIES ARE TO RESPECT EACH OTHER'S INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY; DR. KISSINGER MAY HAVE MADE AN OVER-ALL SETTLEMENT IN INDOCHINA A LITTLE EASIER BY PERSUADING HANOI TO REAFFIRM THIS...."

WEST BERLIN

INDEPENDENT TAGESSPIEGEL ON SATURDAY REPORTED SPECULATION BY "POLITICAL OBSERVERS" THAT MR./KIEFWAAR TOLD CHOU EN-LAI ON THURSDAY THAT MR. NIXON WAS RESOLVED TO REDUCE AND ABOLISH THE "U.S. GARRISON ON TAIWAN." IT CITED "WASHINGTON DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES" AS SAYING THAT IN ADDITION TO TRADE RELATIONS, DISCUSSIONS IN PEKING CENTERED ON ESTABLISHING A SEMI-OFFICIAL AMERICAN REPRESENTATION IN THE PRC UNTIL AMBASSADORS WERE EXCHANGED. WEST GERMAN TELEVISION CARRIED WIRE SERVICE ACCOUNTS OF THE TRIP AND USED STILL PICTURES AND FILM CLIPS OF THE HONG KONG STOPOVER.

LONDON

DEPUTY EDITOR LOUIS HEREN WROTE SATURDAY IN THE TIMES OF LONDON THAT "THE PROMISE OF AID FOR ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION WILL SURELY INHIBIT ANY LINGERING DESIRE AMONG THE NORTH VIETNAMESE LEADERSHIP FOR ANOTHER MILITARY ATTEMPT TO ACHIEVE COMPLETE VICTORY. THE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION, ESTABLISHED WHEN DR. HENRY KISSINGER WAS IN HANOI THIS WEEK, COULD PROVE A POWERFUL PERSUADER.... THE RETURN OF THE PRISONERS DOES SIGNAL A NEW BEGINNING AS WELL AS AN END.... THE ONCE DAILY FLOW OF CASUALTY LISTS HAS STOPPED.... THOSE WHO KNOW AND LIKE THE U.S. DO NOT DOUBT THAT THE OLD EXUBERANCE FOR LIFE AND GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT WILL RETURN...."

HANOI

OFFICIAL NHAN DAN ON FRIDAY CHARGED THAT "THE TRANSFORMATION OF THAILAND INTO A WAR BASE...IS POSING A DIRECT THREAT AGAINST THE PEOPLES OF VIETNAM, LAOS AND CAMBODIA. IT IS AN ACT OF

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ABETTING THE SAIGON ADMINISTRATION IN OPPOSING PEACE AND NATIONAL CONCORD, AND LAYS THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE U.S. TO RESUME HOSTILITIES AGAINST THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE WHEN IT DEEMS NECESSARY."

PEKING

NONA IN ENGLISH REPORTED THE FRIDAY BANQUET IN HONOR OF DR. KISSINGER "AND MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY AND THE AIR CREW." IT NOTED THAT PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI AND DR. KISSINGER SAID "THEY WOULD MAKE EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN THE SPIRIT OF THE SINO-U.S. SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE."

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